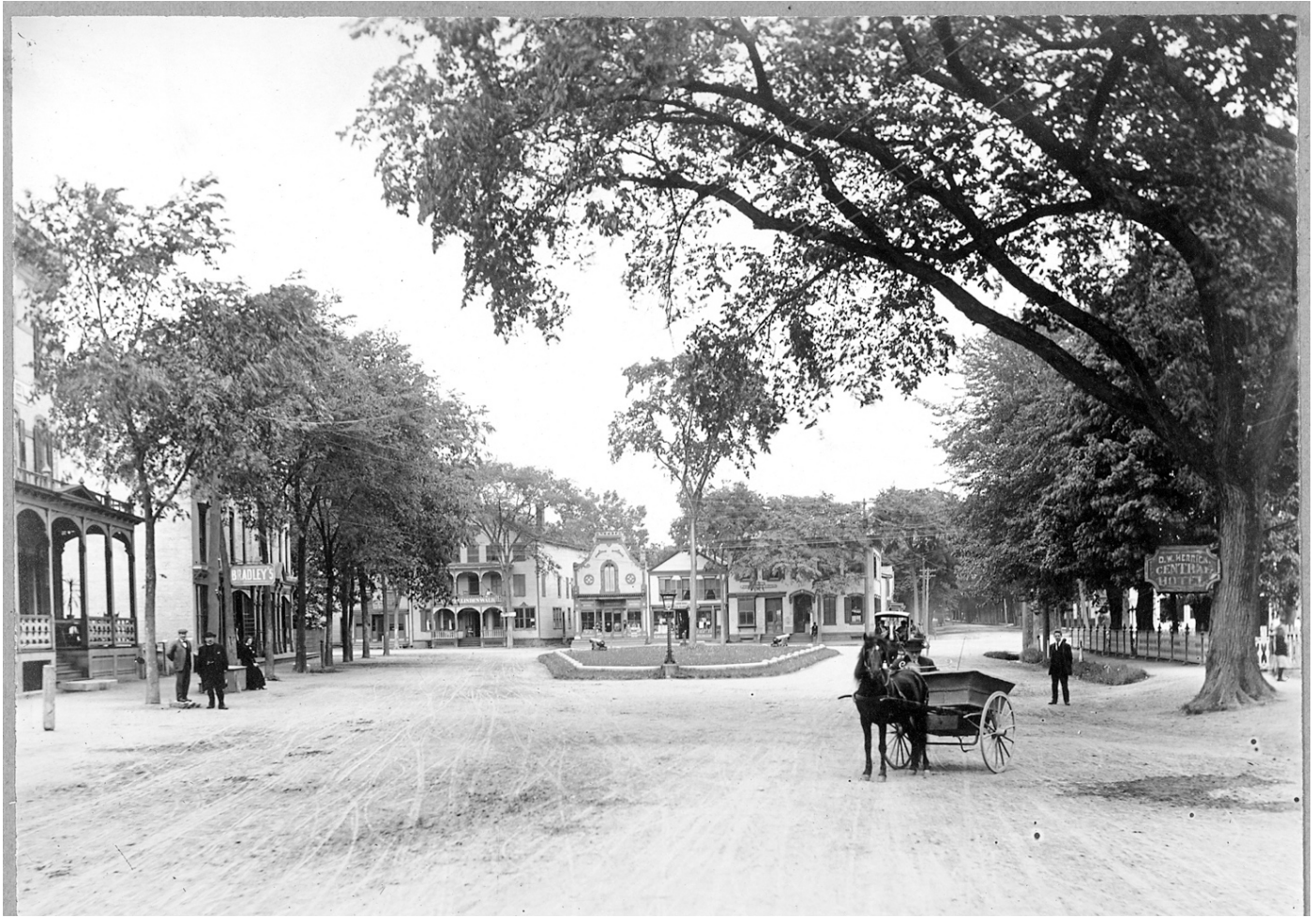


# Village of Kinderhook



*“Once Quiet Village a Secret No Longer – Kinderhook,  
birthplace and home of Martin Van Buren, is growing with retail, art, food.”*

–Steve Barnes, *Times Union*, September 18, 2022

Village of Kinderhook, 6 Chatham Street, NY 12106 – Columbia County  
**NY Forward Grant Application - September 23, 2022**  
CAPITAL REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Contact: Nicole H. Heeder, Clerk-Treasurer, [nheeder@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:nheeder@villageofkinderhook.org); Mike Abrams, Mayor,  
Village of Kinderhook, [mayor@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:mayor@villageofkinderhook.org)  
518-758-9882

## **A Dynamic Community Where Past and Future Converge**

The Village of Kinderhook is one of the most historically significant places in the Hudson Valley. The word “Kinderhoek,” meaning “children’s corner” or “children’s point,” appears on a map dating about 1614, making it one of the oldest Dutch-derived place names, if not the oldest, still in use in New York State.

The Village is located on the east side of the Hudson River, approximately 130 miles north of New York City and 20 miles south of Albany. In the 1820s and 1830s, Kinderhook saw the flourishing of stores, artisan shops, hotels, banks, and newspapers. The Village was incorporated in 1838. Buildings constructed during that earlier time of growth continue to provide the charm, space, and infrastructure driving today’s resurgence of investment in dining, retail, professional, and arts-related businesses.

The Village’s early development was inextricably linked to the road called the King’s Highway, also called the Albany Post Road, which linked up to the present-day Albany Avenue. Being a stop for passengers and mail delivery on the route connecting Albany with New York City set the stage for Kinderhook’s emergence as a hub of entrepreneurship, light manufacturing, banking, and professional services.

Today, Albany Avenue continues to play a central role in Kinderhook’s economic development as the corridor linking the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail and the ever-increasing numbers of bicycle tourists discovering Kinderhook’s central business district. The historic connection between Kinderhook, New York City, and the Capital Region persists today, with a steadily increasing stream of visitors discovering Kinderhook’s history and historic assets, visiting exhibitions at the Village’s four world-class art galleries and the Columbia County Historical Society, learning about healthy food at the award-winning Kinderhook Farmers’ Market, attending special events, taking advantage of the resources of the Kinderhook Memorial Library, and shopping and enjoying food and drink at an array of retail and food establishments.

## **A Quality of Life Defined by Local History and Strong Community Ties**

The proposed Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area draws its defining physical character and quality of life characteristics from its extraordinary collection of historic single-family, mixed-use, and commercial architectural gems that attract residential and business owners committed to the preservation, renovation, and adaptive reuse of these distinctive properties. This defining feature is central to the Village's attraction of heritage visitors from the region, from across the U.S., and abroad. Unlike most Hudson Valley communities that are defined by a Main Street, Kinderhook's center is defined by its historic Village Square – a charming public-park area at the core of the Kinderhook Business & Recreational Investment Area. This area serves as the center of community gathering and commercial and civic life.

The Village's original network of tree-lined, pedestrian streets, as well as its string of green parks, invite recreational opportunities for families and individuals of all ages and mobility for kayaking, walking, local and long-distance biking, and team sports. Kinderhook's green spaces also provide opportunities to learn about local history and sustainable horticulture. Sprinkled throughout the village and accessible by walking or biking, these parks include the Village Square, the Martin Van Buren and Bandstand Pocket Park, Rothermel Park, Mills Park, The Persons of Color Cemetery, and the recently named Hudson Street Landing at Creekside Park, as well as the recently opened Kinderhook section of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail.

Kinderhook's diverse community – comprised of farmers, daily commuters to the Capital Region and part-time commuters to New York City, professionals serving the needs of the local community, retirees, families, home-based freelancers and businesses, and individuals working in the creative economy – is continually being enriched by an influx of individuals relocating as full- or part-time residents and bringing their talents, their diversity of cultural and ethnic backgrounds and gender identity, and their spirit of entrepreneurship and volunteerism to the community.

## **Our Vision for Revitalization**

The Village of Kinderhook will be a gateway to the natural, cultural, and historic assets of Columbia County. We are committed to future-facing, sustainable development that respects and builds on our community's unique character and diversity, enhances the community's quality of life, and empowers the local economy.

## **Village of Kinderhook 2022 Awards**

New York State Rural Water Association Best Municipal Water System  
Times Union Hudson Valley's Best  
Best Farmers' Market - Kinderhook Farmers' Market  
Best Orchard - Samascott Orchards



## **New Businesses Are Redefining Kinderhook's Business District and Creating In-Village Jobs**

Recognizing the potential for redeveloping historic properties to house businesses that serve the local community but also attract essential tourism dollars, new businesses have invested upwards of \$7 million in Kinderhook's business district in the past five to ten years. This investment has spurred accelerated job growth and opportunity within the Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area, the focus of the NY Forward application.

\*Indicates opened in the past two years.

### **Agricultural**

#### **Samascott Orchards and Samascott's Garden Market**

Jobs: 105 full- and part-time

### **Food-and-Drink Establishments**

#### **Broad Street Bagel Co.**

Jobs: 11, 5 full time, 6 part time

#### **Brooklyn Pizzeria at The Flammerie \***

Jobs: 7, 3 full time, 4 part time

#### **Dyad Wine Bar**

Jobs: 2 full time

#### **El Toro Mexican Restaurant \***

Jobs: 3 full time

#### **Morningbird/The Aviary \***

Jobs: 9 full time, projected 20 part time and full time

#### **Saisonnier\***

Jobs: 2 full time, 4 part time

#### **Simons Catering**

Jobs: 5 full and part time

### **Retail**

#### **OK Pantry \***

Jobs: 1 full time, 3 part time

#### **The Kinderhook Bottle Shop \***

Jobs: 2 full time, 1 part time

#### **2 Note \***

Jobs: 2 full time

### **Arts-Related**

#### **Bill Arning Exhibitions - Hudson Valley\***

Jobs: 1 full time

#### **Func Art Design, Inc.**

Jobs: 10 full and part time

#### **The School I Jack Shainman Gallery**

Jobs: 5 full time, 10 part time

#### **Gallery Northeast \***

Jobs: 1 full time

#### **Schroeder Arts Consulting**

1 full time

#### **September Gallery \***

Jobs: 2 full time

### **Non-Profits**

#### **Columbia County Historical Society**

Jobs: 2 full time

#### **Kinderhook Memorial Library**

Jobs: 7 full time

### **Personal Services**

#### **Bones Barbershop\***

Jobs: 1 full time, 2 part time

#### **Julia Jayne Pilates\***

Jobs: 1 full time

#### **Great Lengths Hair Salon**

Jobs: 1 full time

### **Impending Job Growth**

#### **The Old Dutch Inn and Three Sisters**

Jobs: 30

#### **Damsel Garden**

Jobs: 2 part time

## **Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area Knitting Together Our Assets**

### **Geographic Area**

The proposed Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area has well-defined physical boundaries encompassing two-thirds of a square mile. Represented within this area are all facets of Kinderhook's dynamic and interconnected community life. These include municipal government offices; public services, such as the post office, the court, and state-police headquarters; residences; retail and professional businesses; mixed-use properties; arts, religious, and historic organizations; non-profits; recreational resources; a seasonal farmers' market; and lively public-gathering spaces. The components of the area are unified and interconnected by accessible walking and bicycling routes via scenic village streets and the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail.

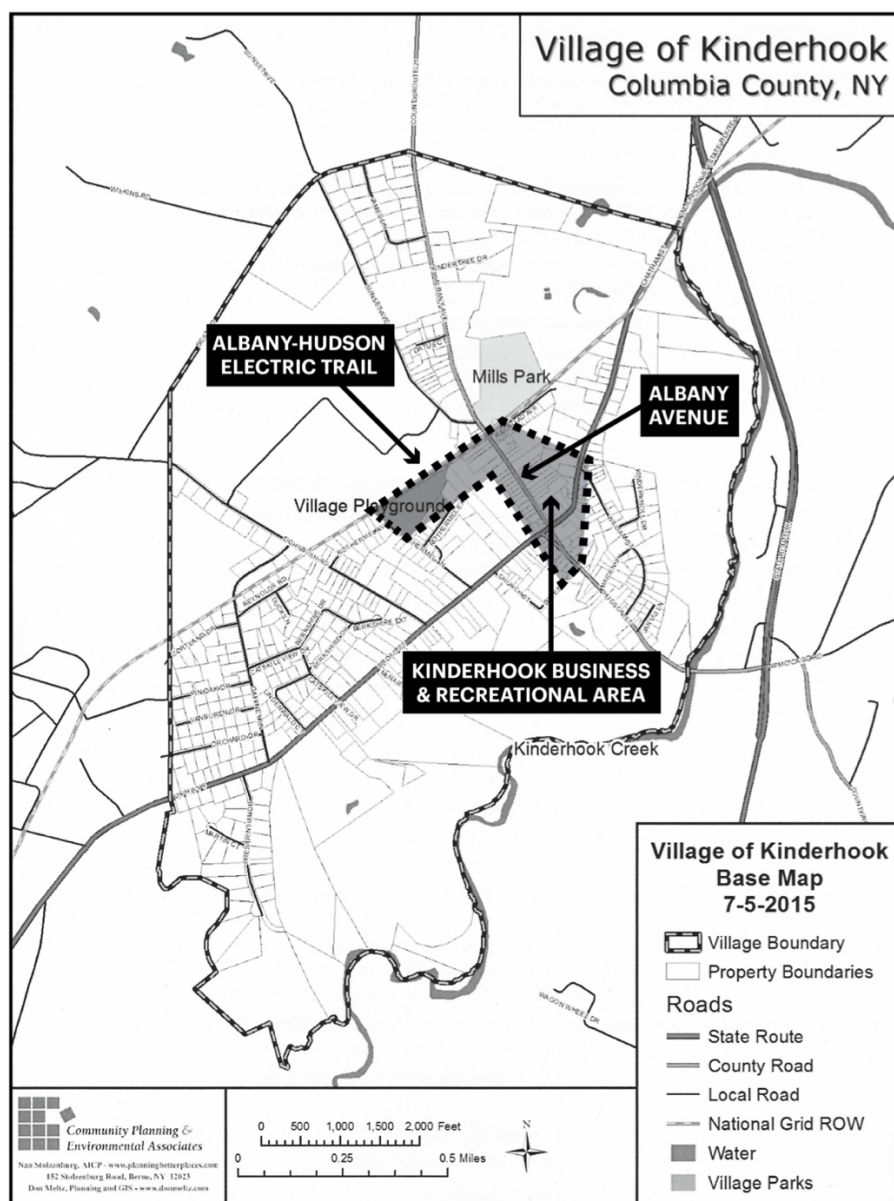
The area includes:

- The central Business District
- The historic Village Square and Green
- A section of the Historic Preservation Overlay District and the National Register Historic District
- Historic Albany Avenue
- A section of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail
- Rothermel Park and Playground

The boundaries of the Business & Recreational Area include the major streets converging at the Village Square – Albany Avenue, Broad Street, Chatham Street, and Hudson Street. These four streets contain a mix of 39 brick-and-mortar and home-based businesses and 2 religious and 2 non-profit institutions. The northern boundary is defined by Albany Avenue and the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail connecting to Rothermel Park at Rothermel Avenue. The southern boundary is defined by the intersection of Hudson Street and Sylvester Street.



The core of the area is comprised primarily of an eclectic mix of low-density 19<sup>th</sup>-century residential, commercial, municipal, non-profit, recreational, and mixed-use buildings. They comprise the B-1 Business District and a section of the Historic Overlay District, which is subject to review by the Village of Kinderhook Historic Preservation Commission. The extensive agricultural area owned and operated by Samascott Orchards, located adjacent to the proposed area of focus and the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, comprises a major component of Kinderhook's economic sector and the village's largest single employer, with 105 jobs.





## **Public Engagement and Project Identification**

### **Moving Forward: Current Public Engagement**

Public engagement kicked off with an informational presentation by the village's economic-development director on July 13, 2022, at a monthly Village Board meeting at which the NY Forward program and the application process were summarized. Members of the public were present. Following the Village Board's commitment to proceed, the Letter of Intent was submitted on August 10, 2022.

A review of the Village of Kinderhook Comprehensive Plan Update (December 2016), which represents the most comprehensive summary of the community's priorities to date, was then undertaken to assess community consensus on desired improvements and directions for the village's future. The Comprehensive Plan identified opportunities for improvement that are consistent with the NY Forward project selection. These include improving handicap accessibility; preservation of the historic past while looking forward; repairing Albany Avenue; improving safety for bicycling and walking as well as on roads, sidewalks, and at pedestrian crossings; re-energizing vacant storefronts; increasing business activity; façade improvements; building on heritage tourism and creating opportunities for increased tourism; historic-style lighting; improving facilities in Van Buren Hall; and expanding recreational amenities.

The village's economic development director and the mayor then undertook a dialogue with owners of either vacant or under-utilized properties and properties with housing opportunities plus non-profit organizations located in the B-1 Business District. The non-profit organizations included Columbia County Historical Society and the Kinderhook Memorial Library. The non-profit organizations and private property owners were asked to submit suggestions for projects. Those conversations were the genesis of identifying appropriate projects.

On August 24, 2022, the mayor, economic-development director, and the director and financial officer of the Columbia County Historical Society held a technical consultation with New York State on project selection.

August 31, 2022, the Village held a Public Engagement Workshop in Van Buren Hall at 6 Chatham Street before a special Village Board meeting. The workshop was advertised via village email blasts, social media, and posters displayed at locations around the village. The twenty-five attendees included a cross-section of the village's population - new and long-time residents; young transplants; parents; senior citizens; retirees; board of trustee members; and business owners. The workshop included a summary of potential projects that had been identified to date. Audience members were invited to share feedback on project selection and project prioritization.

On September 3, 2022, a NY Forward informational packet was made available to the public at the Kinderhook Farmers' Market. During the month of September, the economic-development director and the mayor continued to work with business and property owners and non-profit organizations to refine their project proposals.

### **Setting the Stage: Past Public Engagement**

Community engagement and discussions about many of the selected projects have taken place over time in multiple forums. For example, general discussions about village business development take place monthly during Kinderhook Business and Professional Association meetings. From 2018 to 2020, a special committee met monthly to discuss and plan for the renovation of Van Buren Hall. A public-feedback survey for users of Van Buren Hall was completed prior to the generation of an architectural plan. In 2021, the Kinderhook Recreation Commission completed research and discussions on playground-equipment selection and pricing in preparation for submitting a grant application to the NYS Office of Parks and Recreation, Historic Preservation for upgrades to Rothermel Park Playground. Unfortunately, that grant was not awarded.

## **Project Selection Informed by Place-Based Development**

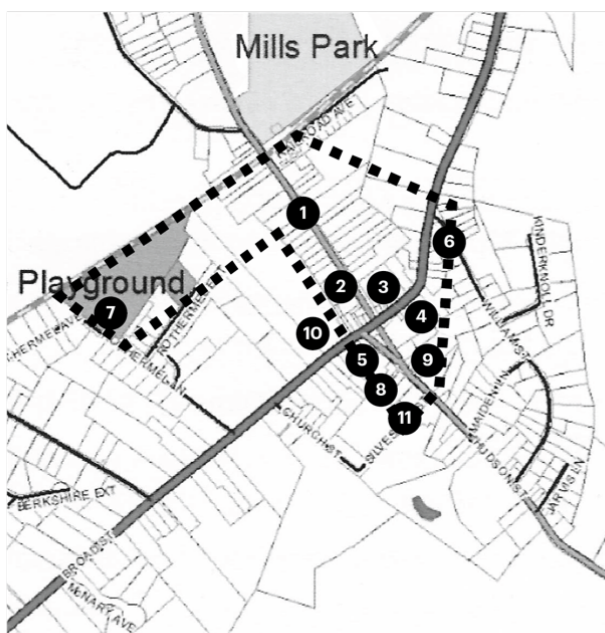
The Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area encompasses proposed projects that leverage ongoing place-based development strategies that build on the village's distinctive characteristics, localized assets, and sources of competitive advantage. These include our unique village center, our historic and cultural heritage, our expanding arts community, our forward-leaning Climate Smart policies, the natural environment and farming community, and our village's walkability and bike friendliness. The proposed projects will effectively leverage past, present, and future public and private investment, increase accessibility, strengthen the economic viability of local and regional businesses by expanding the village's role as a regional tourism attractor, preserve and upgrade irreplaceable historic assets, catalyze future business growth and job creation, and significantly improve the daily lives of village residents of all ages.

### **Proposed projects will**

- Implement Complete Streets measures and make streetscape improvements, including improved sidewalks and bike lanes, ADA-accessibility, and traffic calming
- Stabilize, renovate, preserve, and repurpose significant historic assets located in the Historic Preservation Overlay District
- Expand access for mobility-challenged individuals to private and public spaces and cultural/historic facilities
- Facilitate year-round community events and expand opportunities for expanding arts and cultural programming
- Improve connectivity between the village center, recreational assets, historic sites, and the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail
- Improve safety, expand accessibility, and upgrade interactive playground equipment

- Create 2 new retail spaces that will accelerate the perception of Kinderhook as a shopping destination
- Create or refurbish 12 affordable-housing units that will encourage expansion of the local work force
- Construct an ADA-compliant public bathroom in the Village Square for visitors, alleviate use of private bathroom facilities in businesses and related costs, provide an amenity for bicyclists on the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail
- Improve sidewalk lighting for safety and to draw attention to the business district at night
- Reduce carbon emissions by upgrading to sustainable heating and cooling systems and improving infrastructure that will encourage increased walking and biking
- Create a collection of digital and printed documents for historic preservation and green upgrades to historic properties

#### Map of Proposed Projects in Kinderhook Business & Recreational Area



#### Priority NY Forward Projects

1. Albany Ave. Complete Streets
2. CCHS Museum & Library, 5 Albany Ave.
3. 1 Chatham Street
4. Van Buren Hall, 6 Chatham Street
5. Village Square Bandstand
6. 22 Chatham Street
7. Rothermel Park Regional Playground

#### Secondary NY Forward Projects

8. 6 Hudson Street
9. 9 Hudson Street
10. Broad Street Lighting
11. Kinderhook Memorial Library, 18 Hudson Street

## **Building Future Growth through Public Investment**

In the past decade, the Village of Kinderhook has undertaken a multi-faceted array of transformative projects that have positively impacted a variety of community needs, including planning documents; critical infrastructure improvements; quality-of-life issues for the community at large, such as street and sidewalk maintenance and improvements; walkability and accessibility; environmental sustainability; historic preservation; beautification; and business attraction, retention, and promotion. Some of these projects were successfully undertaken as intermunicipal partnerships with the Village of Valatie.

Kinderhook's transformative public investments have proven their value over time through their catalyzing effect on the accelerated private investment in the past five years of approximately \$7 million by new business ventures in the Village's business district. The prime example of this effect was the installation of a wastewater-disposal system in 2015, servicing 37 properties in the business district. Crucially, this system has enabled historic properties that were previously limited to what types of businesses and residences could be supported by their septic systems to be utilized in a variety of ways – such as increased housing units, retail, and food-and-dining ventures. This expansion of business options in turn opened the doors to increased job growth. The range of these types of public projects over the past decade has yielded dynamic results that have and will impact for decades to come historic preservation, the community's quality of life, and further business attraction and retention. These accomplishments also demonstrate Kinderhook's proven track record of responsibly managing both large- and small-scale projects and its readiness to leverage the opportunities of the NY Forward initiative.

### **Completed Municipal Investments**

#### **Sidewalk-Link Project - Intermunicipal Project**

**2013**

Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie

Funding: Federal Marchiselli Funds, NYS DOT

Project Cost: \$1.1 million

<b>Installation of Wastewater-Disposal System for 37 Properties in the B-1 Business District - Intermunicipal Project</b> Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie Funding: Community Development Block Grant, Private Donations, NYS Department of State Grants (2) Project Cost: \$1.3 million	<b>2015</b>
<b>Village Hall Interior and Exterior Restorations and Repairs (Inclusive of Masonry Repairs, Window Replacement, Passenger Lift Installation, Roof Repair, Historic Cupola Replacement, Village Court And Clerk Office Upgrades, Bathroom Renovation)</b> Funding: Village of Kinderhook, JCAP (2) Project Cost: \$775,000	<b>2000-2018</b>
<b>Village of Kinderhook Comprehensive Plan Update</b> Funding: Hudson River Valley Greenway Project Cost: \$17,000	<b>2016</b>
<b>Kinderhook Creek Designation as New York State Inland Waterway</b> Project Cost: \$0	<b>2017</b>
<b>“Kinderhook Creek Recreational Resource Inventory” - Intermunicipal Project Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie</b> Funding: Hudson River Valley Greenway, Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie Project Cost: \$10,000	<b>2018</b>
<b>Van Buren Hall Renovation Design and Construction Estimates</b> Funding: Village of Kinderhook Project Cost: \$5,500	<b>2020</b>
<b>Electric Vehicle Charging Station Installation</b> Funding: NYSERDA Project Cost: \$16,000	
<b>Solarization of Kinderhook Fire House and Department of Public Works Garage</b> Funding: NYSERDA Project Cost: \$35,000	<b>2022</b>

## **Ongoing Municipal Investments**

### **Yearly Maintenance of Albany-Hudson Electric Trail**

**2020-**

Funding: Village of Kinderhook

Project Cost: \$10,000

### **Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP)- Intermunicipal Project**

**2020-2025**

#### **Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie**

Funding: Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie

NYS Department of State

Project Cost: \$89,000

### **“Kinderhook Creek Access Points Improvements” - Intermunicipal Project**

**2021-2023**

#### **Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie**

Funding: Villages of Kinderhook and Valatie

Hudson River Valley Greenway Trails Grant

Project Cost: \$20,000

### **Albany Avenue Transportation Enhancement/Walkable and Bikeable**

**2022-**

Funding: Village of Kinderhook

Federal Highway Administration

Project Cost: \$2,330,000

## **Our Transformative Projects**

### **Priority NY Forward Projects - \$3,556,000**

#### **Albany Avenue Complete Streets**

**Project Sponsor:** Village of Kinderhook

**Project Scope:** Implement Albany Avenue improvements, including road repaving, sidewalks, bike lanes, traffic-calming measures.

**Project Impact:** Increases safety, upgrades streetscape, provides new bikes lanes, provides improved and safer connectivity between Albany-Hudson Electric Trail and central business district, increases number of biking tourists to business-district retail and food-and-drink establishments.

**Grant Request:** \$466,000

**Grant Match:** \$1,864,000 (TAP Grant)

**Job Creation:** Professional services, including engineering; contractors and road-construction.

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#### **Columbia County Historical Society Museum & Library, 5 Albany Avenue**

**Project Sponsor:** Columbia County Historical Society



**Project Scope:** Rehabilitate historic 1925 Masonic Temple, which houses the CCHS offices, 2 galleries, and a genealogy library. Project includes ADA accessibility; including an elevator, bathroom, and new south entrance; installation of geothermal heating and cooling system; restoration of CCHS signage and light fixtures at north entrance; landscaping of a path/garden area to link museum and 1820 James Vanderpoel House.

**Impact:** Creates accessibility; expands public use; increases programming and attendance at facilities; encourages more heritage tourism; improves visibility from Albany-Hudson Electric Trail; reduces carbon emissions.

**Grant Request: \$930,000**

**Grant Match: \$0**

**Job Creation: Professional services, including engineering and architectural; contractors; restoration experts.**

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### **1 Chatham Street - Historic "Four Corners" Mixed-Use Property**

**Project Sponsors:** Jennifer Ose-MacDonald and Mary Ose

**Project Scope:** Stabilize vacant historic structure and renovate interior and exterior high-visibility, two-story building to create two apartments and two new commercial spaces.

**Project Status:** Engineering report completed.

**Impact:** Increases availability of in-village apartments for local workforce in a limited apartment market; adds two new retail spaces to bolster the village's collection of retail destinations.

**Grant Request: \$750,000**

**Grant Match: \$250,000-\$500,000**

**Job Creation: Professional services, including engineering and architectural; contractors; retail employees.**

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### **Van Buren Hall, 6 Chatham Street**

**Project Sponsor:** Village of Kinderhook

**Project Status:** Architectural drawings and preliminary cost estimates completed.

**Project Scope:** Renovate existing second-floor facility to create a year-round facility and ADA compliance by installing energy-efficient air-conditioning system; handicap-accessible bathrooms; new kitchen facility.

**Impact:** Increases accessibility; expands cultural and arts programming and event opportunities; provides a new Columbia County arts facility for use by artists, musicians, and lecturers; provides a community cooling center; reduces carbon emissions; increases cultural and arts tourism and support for local retail and food-and-drink establishments.

**Grant Request: \$600,000**

**Grant Match: \$0**

**Job Creation: Professional services, including architectural; contractors; part-time for performers, musicians, lecturers, arts-related instructors; lifestyle instructors, such as yoga, dance, fitness.**

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### **Village Square Bandstand, Corner of Broad Street and Hudson Street**

**Project Sponsor:** Village of Kinderhook

**Project Scope:** Rebuild/repair structural deficiencies of high-visibility 1901 historic structure with addition of a public, ADA-Compliant bathroom and ADA passenger lift.

**Project Status:** Engineering study and preliminary cost estimates completed.

**Impact:** Preserve a high-visibility historic Village Square structure in the historic district; increase safety for use; encourage increased use for music and other performances and events; preserve a century-old village tradition of outdoor musical events.

**Job Creation:** Professional services, including engineering and architectural; contractors.

**Grant Request:** \$150,000

**Grant Match:** 0

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### **22 Chatham Street, High-Visibility Mixed-Use Property**

**Project Sponsor:** Mutsu LLC

**Project Scope:** Renovate and refurbish a mixed-use property at the gateway to the Village to create 6 affordable-housing units.

**Impact:** Provide affordable in-village housing for employees of local businesses; decrease distance from housing to workplace; decrease carbon emissions by encouraging walkability; improve the appearance of a high-visibility location at the entrance to the Village's business district from the north via I-90 and the Capital Region.

**Job Creation:** Professional services, including engineering and architectural; contractors.

**Grant Request:** \$350,000

**Grant Match:** \$350,000

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### **Rothermel Park Regional Playground, Rothermel Avenue**

**Project Sponsor:** Village of Kinderhook

**Project Scope:** Improve safety and accessibility for all-season use and village-sponsored summer camp by upgrading outdated playground equipment to current safety codes and ADA compliance; installation of soft surface and splash pad; installation of adult fitness station.

**Impact:** Creates the first Columbia County playground with ADA-accessible and interactive play equipment; provides quality-of-life upgrade for families with young children; attracts families from around the County, where 16% of children under 18 have a disability; increases visitor traffic to village retail and food-and-drink establishments; improves available recreational facilities along the adjacent Albany-Hudson Electric Trail; reduces carbon emissions by encouraging travel to playground facility by bicycle via the bike trail.

**Project Status:** Preliminary selection of upgraded playground equipment completed.

**Grant Request:** \$310,000

**Grant Match:** 0

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### **Secondary NY Forward Projects - \$308,250**

#### **6 Hudson Street Historic Façade Renovation**

**Project Sponsor:** Berkshire Hathaway Home

Services Blake Realty

**Project Scope:** Repoint bricks, replace windows, repair wooden façade elements, paint.

**Impact:** Repairs, renovates, and preserves the façade of a high-visibility, mixed-use building located across from the high-trafficked Village Green.

**Grant Request: \$74,250**

**Grant Match: \$24,750**

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**9 Hudson Street, Affordable Rental Housing**

**Project Sponsor:** GFK9, LLC

**Project Scope:** Renovate and upgrade interior and exterior of an existing 6-unit apartment building.

**Impact:** Provides attractive, up-to-date affordable rentals for local workforce and retirees; improves the aesthetics of historic Village Square; reduces carbon emissions by encouraging walkability and bikeability to local jobs and amenities.

**Grant Request: \$200,000**

**Grant Match: \$350,000**

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**Broad Street Historic-Style LED Light Posts**

**Project Sponsor:** Village of Kinderhook

**Project Scope:** Install electrical service and four 10-foot, historic-style, energy-efficient LED light posts matched to Village of Kinderhook Municipal Parking Lot light posts.

**Impact:** Creates pedestrian lighting and improves night safety on sidewalks in front of 2, 6, 8, and 10 Broad Street; signals the entrance to the business district on Broad Street (Route 9) after dark.

**Grant Request: \$25,000**

**Grant Match: \$0**

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**Kinderhook Memorial Library - Digital & Print Resource Collection, 18 Hudson Street**

**Project Sponsor:** Kinderhook Memorial Library

**Project Scope:** Create a digital and print resource collection and workshop series for historic preservation and green upgrades to be utilized by local and regional historic property owners.

**Impact:** Assists property owners unfamiliar with historic-preservation measures to have an in-depth resource for research and hands-on learning; helps preserve inventory of historic properties in the region.

**Grant Request: \$9,000**

**Grant Match: \$0**

## **A Record of Successful Administrative Capacity**

The Village of Kinderhook has the leadership, the administrative organization, and legal support to implement and sustain multiple simultaneous projects and to successfully administer New York State and federal grants. (See list of Completed and Ongoing Municipal Investments.)

The village's full-time and part-time staff is comprised of a Village Clerk-Treasurer, a Deputy-Clerk, an Economic-development Director, a Supervisor of the Department of Public Works, a Deputy-Supervisor of Public Works, and a Motor-Equipment Operator. The village's practice has been to appropriately scale our management and technical and administrative support to meet the challenges required to successfully execute project grants. The mayor or one of the village's four trustees is assigned the responsibility of being the project coordinator. It is his or her responsibility to generate and execute project plans and acquire/assign resources to support the project's objectives. The administrative and financial resources are shared between projects. Technical resources usually are dedicated to project implementation. Legal support is available as needed. If the project is a significant undertaking, due to complexity and/or a high-funding level, the village may opt to hire a dedicated project manager and/or a project administrator to steer the project to completion.

## **Local Policies - Local Commitments to Decarbonization and Inclusion**

### **Village of Kinderhook - A Climate Smart Community Since 2016**

Since 2016, the Village of Kinderhook Climate Smart Task Force, an all-volunteer committee, has taken the lead in advocating for environmentally responsible policies and actions. The Task Force has forged community partnerships with multiple organizations and businesses, including the Kinderhook Business and Professional Association, Kinderhook Memorial Library, Hannaford Markets, Mario's Hardware, Samascott's Garden Market, the Kinderhook Farmers' Market, and the Village of Kinderhook Office of Economic Development. The committee has also taken an active leadership role and served as a model to other committees

in Columbia County and throughout the region. In the past few years, those efforts have been recognized by awards from the NYS Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) of more than \$60,000 for community environmental projects. The projects include

- Adoption of Unified Solar Permit Process
- Installation of an Electric-Vehicle Charging Station
- Solarization of Two Village Buildings
- Successful Completion of a Community Solar Campaign
- Purchase of Electric Tools to Replace Gas Powered: Push Mower, Leaf Blower, Weed Wacker

### **A Commitment to Inclusion**

On March 9, 2022, the Village of Kinderhook's Board of Trustees unanimously passed "A Resolution Against Hate." That resolution unequivocally recognizes that a positive quality of life starts with respecting the dignity of all members of our community. The resolution states

"NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Mayor and Board of Trustees on behalf of its constituents' members, do hereby state that the Village reaffirms our commitment to a status of inclusion for all races, religions, nationalities, gender identities, sexual orientations, economic statuses, and political affiliations. . ."

<https://villageofkinderhook.org/downloads/VILLAGE%20RESOLUTION%20v.2AGAINST%20HATE%203-22.pdf>

